

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A control apparatus enables speech control of a processor-controlled machine connectable to speech a processing apparatus. The control apparatus provides: a client module for receiving dialog interpretable instructions derived from speech data processed by the speech processing apparatus; a dialog communication arrangement for interpreting received dialog interpretable instructions using a dialog compatible with the machine and for communicating with the processor-controlled machine using the dialog to enable information to be provided to the user in response to received dialog interpretable instructions, thereby enabling a dialog to be conducted with the user; a dialog determiner for determining from information provided by the machine the dialog to be used with that machine; and a machine communicator communicating with the machine to cause the machine to carry out a function in accordance with the dialog with the user.